

**Remarks at a Tree Planting
Ceremony in Honor of Arbor Day**
April 29, 2005

The President. Glad you all are here. Ready, Mr. Secretary?

Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns. I'm ready.

The President. First of all, I'm honored—we're honored to be here with the Secretary of Agriculture as well as Marshal Case, who is head of The American Chestnut Foundation. We are planting an American chestnut tree here at the White House. This is the 133d year of Arbor Day. Our message is to our fellow citizens: Plant trees. It's good for the economy, and it's good for the environment.

As well Marshal informs me that The American Chestnut Foundation has worked very closely with the Agriculture Department to coming up with a disease-resistant strain of the American chestnut. And he says we're making good progress and that one day the American chestnut, which had been wiped out by blight, will be coming back. And this is our little part to help it come back.

So, Mr. Secretary, are you prepared?

Secretary Johanns. I am ready. Let's—

The President. A man known for shoveling a lot of things. *[Laughter]*

Secretary Johanns. Exactly.

The President. Ready to go?

Secretary Johanns. Yes, I am ready.

The President. All right, let's do it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. on the North Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Marshal T. Case, president and chief executive officer, The American Chestnut Foundation. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

April 23

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

April 25

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, the President welcomed Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to the Bush Ranch. Later, he met with the Crown Prince.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with the Crown Prince.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis of Greece to the White House on May 20.

The President announced his designation of C. David Welch as a member of the Presidential delegation to attend the funeral services of former President Ezer Weizman of Israel on April 26.

April 26

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Galveston, TX, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Dorothy Paterson.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sandra L. Pack to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Management) and, upon appointment, to designate her as Chief Financial Officer.

The President announced his intention to nominate Randal Quarles to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance).

The President announced his intention to nominate John J. Sullivan to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

The President announced his intention to nominate James Philip Terry to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

The President announced his intention to nominate John M. Reich to be Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to designate F. Duane Ackerman as Chairman